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Missions in foreign countries

editorial

Justice will no doubt prevail

It was, one still remembers, his failure in getting a military decision in US favour in the Viet Nam aggressive war which caused Mr Johnson's exit from the political stage. It was also, no one forgets, his capitalization on his predecessor's blunders and an electoral promise to end the illegal and immoral war which made possible Mr Nixon's entrance into the White House.

But over the last 9 months what has the Republican President done to live up to his pledge? On the one hand, stepping up of the killing and destruction to an all-time high of fury with more B-52 raids and fiercer chemical warfare coupled with desperate efforts to face-lift the rotten Saigon regime and to put teeth in the putrescent puppet army while the holocaust of US youths and squandering of US wealth has been going on unabated as well as the mass slaughter of South Vietnamese civilians and devastation of their land and property. On the other hand, at the Paris Conference, ringing the changes about "US good will for peace", "US desire to negotiate", "North Viet Nam's aggression against South Viet Nam" fabulous figment and "mutual withdrawal" absurd claim, and pertinacious endeavour to impose on the South Vietnamese the Thieu-Ky-Khiem trio of tinhorn dictators, as a "constitutional" and "legal" rule, while the most crucial issues have been dodged and the meeting has been dragging its feet, as a result.

Popular opposition at home and abroad, widespread demand for an end to US aggression and

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SVNR PRG STATEMENT ON NIXON ADMINISTRATION'S OBDURATE POLICY OF AGGRESSION

On November 3rd, US President Nixon made a long address, brazenly pleading for the US policy of stubbornly prolonging the war of aggression in South Viet Nam.

With extremely cynical and crafty arguments, Mr. Nixon distorted historical facts, and insolently challenged the Vietnamese people, the American people and the peace- and justice-loving people all over the world.

As is known to all, since he took office, President Nixon has kept stepping up the war of aggression in South Viet Nam, encroaching upon the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and, at the same time, delaying the discussion of a correct solution to the Viet Nam problem, thus bringing the Paris Conference to a complete standstill.

In an attempt to win a "position of strengh" on the battlefield and at the conference table, the Nixon administration said it had "de-escalated the war" while in fact, it continues to exert "maximum military pressure". It is repeating and even multiplying in South Viet Nam all brutal acts of war taken by the previous administrations, continuing the "clear and hold" strategy and the "pacification" program, increasing the use of B.52s, toxic chemicals and noxious gases to massacre the civilian population, herding the people into disguised concentration camps. In short, it has committed countless more savage crimes against the people across South Viet Nam.

The so-called "Vietnamization of the war" program of US President Nixon is in essence a nefarious policy of using the Vietnamese to fight the Vietnamese to drag out the war of aggression, realize US neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam and perpetuate the partition of Viet Nam. The peacemeal "troops withdrawal" and the so-called program for complete withdrawal of US combat troops mentioned by President Nixon are only manoeuvres to appease the American public, cover up the scheme to keep for a long time a large number of American troops in South Viet Nam, gain time for reinforcing the puppet army and consolidating the puppet administration and use them to carry on the US aggressive and neo-colonialist schemes.

The Saigon puppet administration, a tool for aggression of the US imperialists, is frantically opposing the withdrawal of American troops from South Viet Nam, opposing the establishment of a coalition government in the spirit of national concord, to proceed toward really free and democratic general elections.

They have carried out downright repression of all those who approve peace, independence and neutrality and want serious negotiations with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. The fact that the Nixon administration is stricking to the extremely reactionary and bellicose Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration has further exposed the obduracy and

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Thua Thien PLAF in a thrust into "Hamburger Hill" (A-BIA position, in Quang Tri province)

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withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam has forced the Nixon Administration to declare troop reductions. But it has also set three" criteria" for "replacement of US troops by South Viet Nam forces" so as to pressure the South Vietnamese people to lay down arms. The announced cutbacks, compared with US to tatbuild-up, over half a million strong, have been rightly described by public opinion as "token" pull-outs, which are paltry palliatives to the prompt, complete and unconditional withdrawal of US and satellite soldiery from South Viet Nam and which will, in fact, drag on the war.

Understandably enough, public feeling in the US has flared up in angry bursts against Mr Nixon's double dealing. The recent October 15 Viet Nam Moratorium which elicited universal response showed the extent of his political estrangement from the broad masses. The "credibility gap" inherited from the Johnson times is still there, far from being filled up, but even widened. Mr Nixon has been keeping up the pretence that he has been working for peace. In this connection, on November 3, 1969, he made an "important speech on the Viet Nam policy". For all its rhetoric and occasional pathos it disappointingly contained shop-soiled travesties of truth and sops to public opinion. The only novelty about it was that it supplied a new illustration of his intention to carry on the aggression and keep in office a corrupt clique of clients, his disregard for the South Vietnamese fundamental national rights, and his slight of the American people's legitimate and pressing demand for the prompt repatriation of their sons and husbands.

Mr Nixon's reiterated refusal to withdraw all US troops, his declared intention to go on with the "Vietnamization of the war" in other words will be prolongation and intensification of the aggression, sending of US youths to kill and get killed in South Viet Nam and as a result, continued jeopardization of universal peace. He has even compounded his cynicism with thinly veiled threats to take "strong and effective measures", in case the South Vietnamese do not bow to his will.

"An insult to the intelligence of the American people", his speech was also a challenge to the Vietnamese and world peace-and justice-loving people. It supplied further proof of his aggressiveness and hawkishness. Instead of calming popular anger, it will certainly fan it up into greater turbulence particularly in the US.

The key to a fair settlement of the South Viet Nam tragic issue is simple enough:

As the US has mounted an aggression against South Viet Nam, it alone must and can end it. As the US has unlawfully committed over half a million US and satellite troops to the aggression, it is up to it to pull all of them out, promptly and unconditionally, from South Viet Nam. As the US has created the Saigon regime to serve its neo-colonialist purposes, thereby slighting the South Vietnamese people's inalienable national rights, it is incumbent on it to discard its puppets, if the South Vietnamese are to be left to shape their own destiny.

Such a solution has been put forward by the NFL on November 3, 1968 in its five points, and again, in a more comprehensive and detailed form, on August 5, 1969 in its 10 points. It has been dictated by common sense and by heartfelt concern over the drawn-out sufferings and sacrifices of both Vietnamese and American peoples, and by due regard for peace in South East Asia and in the world for the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights, for US image, for the American people's legitimate interests and for universal aspiration for peace.

The US Administration has time and again stated its desire of an equitable peace. It is high time it matched its words with deeds and complied with the Vietnamese, American and world peoples' demands.

Persistence in its hepeless undertaking will only stiffen the South Vietnamese people's resolve to fight on, shoulder to shoulder with their Northern kindred and undeterred by threats, until genuine independence, freedom and peace are achieved.

The Nixon Administration's senseless stubbornness only brings out in bold relief the loftiness of US progressives' love for peace and justice, which the South Vietnamese greatly admire and treasure. They are profoundly aware that both peoples' struggles are interconnected and interacting and that the militancy of the latter will certainly defeat all schemes to prolong the tragedy which affects them both.

SOUTH VIET NAM

SVNR PRG STATEMENT ON NIXON ADMINISTRATION'S...

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aggressive nature of the US.

To counter the urgent and legitimate demands of millions of Americans that the US government promptly and totally withdraw American troops from South Viet Nam, US President Nixon made fallacious allegations about the situation in Viet Nam after the withdrawal of American troops. The fact is that over half a million US aggressor troops are daily sowing death and destruction in South Viet Nam, grossly encroaching upon the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and seriously threatening peace and security in South-East Asia. If the US stops its aggression and brings home all American troops then all disasters and destruction in South Viet Nam will immediately end.

US President Nixon has openly revealed his scheme to prolong the US aggressive war in South Viet Nam, maintain the role of the US imperialists as an international gendarme in South-East Asia and the rest of the world. The policy of war of President Nixon is the only obstacle to a correct settlement of the Viet Nam question by peaceful means and lies at the origin of the standstill of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. The PRG of the SVNR resolutely denounces and strongly condemns the obdurate policy of aggression of the Nixon administration. This policy will surely end in failure.

Once again, the PRG of the SVNR solemnly declares: South Viet Nam must be independent and free. It is precisely for these noble goals that the South Vietnamese people have overcome all hardships and trials and fought during 25 consecutive years and will persevere in their fight till victory. The Vietnamese and American peoples and the people the world over are demanding that the US end its aggression, withdraw all US troops and troops of other foreign countries of the US camp from South Viet Nam without posing any condition whatsoever, renounce the dictatorial bellicose and rotten Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration, and let the South Vietnamese people settle their internal affairs free of foreign interference. This is also the fundamental spirit and content of the ten-point overall solution of the SVNNFL and the PRG of the SVNR.

If the Nixon administration stubbornly pursue the war of aggression in South Viet Nam, then the South Vietnamese people, acting upon President Ho Chi Minh's sacred Testament will persist in and step up the struggle, resolved to fight back against the US aggression till complete victory. No intimidation and perfidious manoeuvre can shake the iron determination of the fourteen million South Vietnamese people.

The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam calls on the entire people, the population of all strata in South Viet Nam cities, including patriotic soldiers, officers and public employees in the army and administration of the Saigon regime for the independence and freedom of the Fatherland to unite and resolutely defeat all aggressive policies of the US imperialists.

The people and the SVNR PRG sincerely thanks all friends in the five continents for their sympathy with and great assistance to the struggle of the Vietnamese people against the US imperialists and for national salvation, and warmly welcome the American people who have courageously pushed up their just struggle against the war of aggression conducted by the US government in Viet Nam.

The people and the SVNR PRG are firmly convinced that the socialist countries, the peace - and justice-loving countries, the international democratic organizations, the progressive people in the US and the people all over the world will oppose with even greater vigour the reactionary and bellicose policy of President Nixon and increase the support and assistance to the struggle of the Vietnamese people against the US aggression and for national salvation till its complete victory.

Whither the hawk Nixon?

ON November 3, 1969, US President Nixon gave "a televised address to the American public on the Viet Nam issue", hoping to "calm the mounting feeling of the American people", who had been demanding an immediate end to the cruel aggressive war in Viet Nam, and a US pull-out from South Viet Nam.

The speech, wordy, flowery and moving, had been noisily publicized for weeks with all kinds of US psychological warfare stunts. It had been described as a very important speech, in which the President will put forth a miracle formula and new, decisive measures which peace in Viet Nam will depend on... and so on and so forth... But no sooner had Mr Nixon's image faded out from the TV screen than many US politicians and public figures, as well as GIs in South Viet Nam expressed "disappointment", "weariness", and "lack of confidence" because "there is nothing new in it", and "it is nothing less than a big zero". The content of the speech was only the tedious refrains of an aggressor. It was only new in that it smelled of the pungent gun powder that emp. poisoned the atmosphere of the USA. Only the Vietnamese traitors, Thieu-Ky-Khiem and their ilk heaved a sigh of relief. They were overwhelmed with joy as they had been wakened out of a nightmare and relieved of the fear for their safety.

Opening his speech, Nixon had to admit an unpalatable truth, that is, the Viet Nam war had brought about "deep division in the USA and that many Americans have lost their confidence in what their Government has told them about our policy". Noteworthy was his persistent refusal to meet the Americans' legitimate aspiration for an end to the US war in Viet Nam and US pull-out from South Viet Nam. He argued that he only "inherited" a war which three US Presidents had "committed" themselves to. He boasted to "have been strongly critical of the war that has been conducted" in order to cover with a dove's plumes his hawk's feathers.

Tay Ninh, a cemetery of US Amour

He kept harping on the "North Vietnamese have invaded South Viet Nam", myth and alleging that US intervention in South Viet Nam was "to assist the people of the South Viet Nam in their efforts to prevent a communist takeover". And in an attempt to cover up the origin of the Viet Nam war, i.e US policy of aggression, Nixon placed the American people before a fait accompli: "now, we are at war" and made them believe that he was trying to "end the war". He listed all the "initiatives" he had conceived and painted a picture of fake "peace will". He cynically alleged that the refusal of the Vietnamese people fighting the US aggressors and their henchmen for national independence and freedom to accept their aggressors term as an "obstacle in negotiating an end to the war".

But poor Mr Nixon, a bonze's frock can hardly conceal the looks of Satan? How can he obliterate the fact that more than half a million GIs, armed to the teeth, and using even toxic chemicals and gas, have been wreaking death and destruction on the people, cattle and vegetation of South Viet Nam, an area as large as a state of the US? How can he account for the spending of millions of dollar on the killing in South Viet Nam, for over a half million American boys killed and wounded in the US dirty war in Viet Nam?

Yet he dared lay down 3 conditions for the US pull-out and threaten to take "strong and effective measures" against the South Viet Nam people. For all the versatility of his performance, which has combined toughness and softness, his recent speech only boiled down to the continuation of US aggression with the so-called "Vietnamization of the war or in other words the policy of ending the war without giving up US objectives.

This policy consists in strengthening the puppet army and administration, playing off Vietnamese against Vietnamese, prolonging the war by means of US dollars and directions to keep the US neo-colonialist yoke on South Viet Nam.

Through his speech, Nixon revealed his true colours as a war maniac full of wild ambitions who has, in practice, declared war against the American people and tied the US to his war chariot in Viet Nam. It constituted an intolerable challenge to both the Vietnamese and American peoples. Nixon's formula for the continuation of the US war of aggression, put forth against the background of the inevitable bankruptcy of US war policy in Viet Nam, has thrown a more lurid light on his obduracy and rabit bellicosity.

US failure is self-evident. Yet, Nixon is toying with the hope of ending the war from a "position of strength". His plan to proportion US withdrawal to the growing strength of the puppet army, is but a scheme for US permanent military occupation of South Viet Nam, and for the maintenance of the Thieu — Ky rotten regime as a US tool for the conduct of the war.

How can there be any US miracle to shore up a mercenary army which has been drubbed since the "special war"?

"To send the puppet army to relieve the GIs in the battlefield", satirized A. Clement, a French newsmans, "there must be unusual strength to pull them up and help them face an enemy for whom the GIs themselves have proved no match".

Besides, the United States puppet troops have not been able to realise US designs in Viet Nam, let alone the puppet army. Thus, the "Vietnamization" of the US war in Viet Nam is only a day-dream and Nixon's terms are for all they are worth, for a "stay-in" rather than for a "pull-out".

Having carried out two great Patriotic Resistance war with their bare hands but ardent patriotism and boundless self-sacrifice for more than a quarter of a century, the Vietnamese people feel attached to independence, freedom and peace, the way bone is to flesh-genuine independence, freedom and peace.

The 10-point overall solution of the NFL and SVNRPR Government, which takes in full consideration the Vietnamese people's sacred national rights and aspirations, is the basis for any acceptable settlement to the Viet Nam problem. No attempt, on the US side, has been made to meet such a demand.

Deeply impressed by the Vietnamese people's anti-US struggle for national salvation, the American and the world peoples have taken actions for an end to the Viet Nam war, an immediate withdrawal of all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs, without US intervention.

But Nixon, setting his face against it, has made many psychological warfare utterances, in an attempt to drive a wedge between the Vietnamese and American peoples, and has been striving to preserve, at all costs, the Thieu-Ky administration, a US creation, in pursuance of his policy of aggression against the Vietnamese people.

The South Vietnamese people's answer to Nixon is unequivocal, they are fully prepared to continue the fight as long as the US persists in its aggression. Nixon's threats will only stir up hatred and contempt. No aggressor, whoever be may be, can subdue the Vietnamese people.

Their dauntlessness finds convincing illustrations in their 4,000-year-old glorious history. As Mr Nixon continues obstinately his war of aggression, the Vietnamese people will carry on their resistance until he puts a halt to aggression and withdraws all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam. Their singleness of purpose is unshakeable.

If the arrogant hawk Nixon intends to fly into the eye of the storm, the sweeping wrath of the Vietnamese and American peoples is sure to make short work of him.

In the military field

(September — October)

SUCCESSES OF THE PEOPLE AND PLAF OF SOUTH VIET NAM

IN September and October 1969, the South Viet Nam Army and people, determined to turn their grief into strength, mounted repeated successful lightning, devastating and widespread assaults.

The Liberation Armed Forces quite capable of neatly wipe out enemy companies, battalions, groups of mobile forces and convoys, showed increasing combat effectiveness and techniques.

The people's war in South Viet Nam kept developing and well-coordinated and effective large and small-scale operations have provided an other illustration of the progress of the three kinds of forces.

In beating off the US-puppet and satellite troops sent on reinforcement missions to various posts, communication lines, and on terrorist raids, in attacking and surrounding the enemy in cities, and in stepping up the movement for the liquidation of local reactionary administrations and wicked traitors to enable the people to exercise their right as masters, the PLAF have worked out many effective and versatile fighting methods and pinned down, decimated and wiped out a great amount of the enemy military strength.

They also attacked the enemy ton highways and rivers, destroying many military vehicles, sinking or setting ablaze many vessels and motor-boats and at the same time downing several reconnaissance, transport and "cover" planes etc...

Along with these offensives, they have assisted the people in the vicinity of various cities, particularly in the Nam Bo delta, in their uprisings to break the enemy grip and wrest back power in many important localities.

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THESE furious onslaughts struck sledge-hammer blows at the GIs' downgrading morale. Most illustrative was the square refusal of many US companies and battalions to go on rescue missions to posts or areas where US-puppet units had just been wiped out.

More common was the "go-slow" tactics in which they raised countless difficulties to avoid going where they were ordered to.

On November 3, AP correspondent, Peter Arnett and Horst Faas, gave an account on the US-puppet undignified retreat under the impact of the South Darlac PLAF onset on firebase "Kate". South West of the Buprang commando camp: "When the order came to abandon firebase Kate, American artillerymen raced from their bunkers, clawed through their own razor-sharp barbed wire and ran down the steep slopes...

A major problem he faced in the camp was battered American morale, particularly battleshock where men lay in bunkers gripped by uncontrollable fear, or even babbling incoherently about inevitable death."

Typical attacks:

September 11, at *Di Linh* on *Lam Dong High Plateaux*, after a 36-minute battle the PLAF infantry seriously damaged the CP of the 53rd puppet regiment and that of the 3rd battalion of the said regiment, wiping out 4 companies (signal, supply, field labour and civil guard), one 105 m/m artillery platoon, or 81 m/m mortar platoon and a group of US "advisers".

On September 14, after 30 minutes of fighting, the *An Giang* PLAF put out of action a large mobile force, including two US companies, then dug in for 2 days running and repelled many enemy counter-attacks, knocking out more enemy troops.

On Highway No 9, in *Quang Nam*, at *Binh Long*..., the PLAF simultaneously shelled several large enemy forces. With clever diversion tactics, they almost neutralized the enemy artillery, dispersed the enemy airforces and quickly wiped out a number of selected targets.

At the end of September, with their usual of lightning and devastating tactics, the *Tay Ninh* PLAF launched a series of "finishing-off" onslaughts, ambushes and rushes, the former paving the way for the latter. They put the 15th puppet armoured regiment out of action, inflicted heavy losses on the 11th US "Armoured Cavalry" regiment, the 3rd division of the US "Flying Cavalry" Corps, the puppet combat division, and the 9th regiment of the 5th puppet division. Earlier, the Binh Long-Tay Ninh PLAF had once battered the 11th US "Armoured Cavalry" regiment.

In mid and late-October, the PLAF artillery shelled dozens of enemy bases almost every night. At times in the same night, from 30 to 40 bases were hit, the enemy admitted. The PLAF infantry also stormed many bases, airfields, storages, ports, command posts, police headquarters, large size US-puppet forces etc..., many important bases coming under fire over and over again.

In *Tri-Thien-Hue*, hundreds of raids were launched on enemy defence lines along Highway No 9 and in Gio Linh, Phong Dien, Hai Lang and Phu Loc districts... From October 1 to 20, the Tri-Thien PLAF disabled 1,500 enemy soldiers, downed 34 planes, blotted out 42 military vehicles and many dumps.

In *Mid-Central and South Central Viet Nam*, during the first half of October, the regional guerrillas and army were responsible for nearly 1,000 enemy casualties.

Most remarkable achievements were scored in the *Nam Bo delta*. On the nights of Oct. 4 and 5, in Ben Tre, My Tho, the PLAF staged simultaneous assaults against hundreds of enemy bases and positions in provincial and district towns, military subsectors and enemy lifelines, killing, wounding and capturing 1,300 enemy troops. In the first half of Oct. 69, the My Tho-Ben Tre people and army launched 4 offensives against different provincial and district towns and the neighbouring areas, killing more than 2,600 enemy soldiers.

In a number of priority "pacification" areas, anticipating enemy plans and strength, the South Viet Nam army and people, unremittingly engaged in fighting the enemy as soon as they landed, smashing several medium and large-scale operations, further foiling the enemy rural "pacification" program.

The South Viet Nam PLAF have devised many imaginative tactical methods: encircling enemy position and attacking the enemy on communication lines, causing them countless difficulties in transport, logistics and rescue operations.

From Oct. 15 to October 25, in *Plei M' Rong* and on *Highway No 14 (Gia Lai)*, the PLAF attacked many posts, killing and wounding 304 enemy troops, while continuously intercepting the units sent to "relieve" the communication lines, destroying 32 enemy tanks and armoured cars.

In *Ben Tre, Tay Ninh...*, the "boat-hunting teams" of the regional guerrillas and army performed brilliant feats, sending to the bottom and setting ablaze 23 vessels, among them 3 10,000-ton ships and one 13,000-ton ship, killing more than 500 enemy soldiers.

Special mention should be made of the South Viet Nam anti-aircraft forces which have made sweeping progress and reached a high level in technique, tactics and combat effectiveness. An illustration: in *Tri Thien* alone, in the first 20 days of Oct. 34 US planes were brought down and in *Nam Bo*, 46 were grounded by guerrilla machine-gunners.

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The remarkable achievements of the PLAF and people in Sept. and Oct. 1969 have further aggravated US-puppet passivity. Their schemes to strengthen the defence lines around major cities and important bases have proved to be impracticable and unable to check PLAF advances.

Their "pacification" operations coupled with perfidious manoeuvres have fallen short of their expectations, on account of the local army and people's stubborn resistance.

The losing position of the US aggression in Viet Nam is left in no doubt. Anti-war acts and mutunies have been on the increase while the already battered US-puppet morale has dropped to a new low. These hard facts are telling blows at Nixon's attempt to prolong the war and forerunners of ultimate US fiasco.

HOANG SON

P40 gunners in action « Each bullet an enemy tank, warship or bunker », is their motto, which they live up to.

The last month in South Viet Nam

More US-puppet crimes

HARDLY had the anger of the South Vietnamese and World peoples at the US-puppet crimes in Thu Duc prison, Linh Son pagoda and other places in South Viet Nam subsided when the Americans and their stooges committed fresh war crimes against the South Vietnamese.

According to still incomplete figures, since October 15 the US-puppet have deployed many units of infantry, naval and air force in raids on many places in South Viet Nam day and night.

B-52s and fighter planes step up strikes at populous areas

In less then one month beginning October 15, US B-52s dropped over 5,000 tons of bombs on the towns of South Viet Nam by day as well as by night. Many lush ricefields and green orchards have been laid waste.

In Trang Bang on the evening of October 24, three flights of B-52s made three sorties, killing 47 people, wounding many others (mostly children and old folks), completely levelling 450 houses and devasting 690 hectares of fields.

On the night of October 25, B-52s flew 9 attacks in Quang Tri and Quang Nam provinces, dumping more than 1,000 tons of bombs, killing 300 people, wounding 236 others, setting afire 564 houses and damaging hundreds of hectares of fields and orchards.

In Pleiku, a fertile region, many flights of B-52s came in on the morning of October 17 and released 700 tons of bombs which wrought havoc in hundreds of hectares of fields and orchards.

Toxic chemicals sprayed in ever greater doses

Together with the use of B-52s the US-puppet have repeatedly used toxic chemicals against South Vietnamese and their crops.

In Rach Gia, in the last days of October alone the Americans and their stooges sent in many kinds of planes in many flights to drop toxic chemicals over the liberated areas of Vinh Thuan and Chau Thanh districts, more than 100 people were affected and 150 hectares of cultivation ruined.

In the area of Nui Ba and the villages of Ninh Thanh, Hiep Ninh Thanh, Hiep Ninh of the Tay Ninh Cao Dai persuasion, the US-puppets resorted to toxic chemicals to destroy the crops and kill civilians. American hovercraft dumped tens of thousands of CS cans while helicopters dropped hundreds of thousands of toxic bombs on the villages. Moreover, enemy guns and mortars fired more than 5,000 gas shells over 1,000 people affected 13 children under 13 killed (Ninh Thanh and Hiep Ninh villages) and more than 100 hectares of crops completely destroyed.

Intensified sweeps

In less than one month the US,. satellite and puppet troops mounted hundreds of sweeps. Besides operations involving several battalions or even regiments, many round ups were organized to pressgang people from youngsters up to old folks, not counting many cases of kidnapping and murders.

In Rach Gia, the number of raids doubled. In less than one month (October 25- November 13) the Americans and their stooges killed about 500 people, arrested 415 others, set afire 150 houses, looted and destroyed over 3 million dongs' worth of property.

In Ben Tre, during October and the first days of November, the Americans and their stooges carried out up to 270 terror operations, killed 177 people, incapacitated 209 others, arrested 90 people, rap2d 25 women, set afire 169 houses and robbed 7 million dongs of property.

On October 2nd, 7 puppet soldiers at Phu Son (Cho Lach district, Ca Mau province) dragged the wife of a soldier belonging to the puppet Seventh Division, and a native of Thanh Ngai (Mo Cay), and raped her to death then disembowelled her and threw her corpse into the river.

During many operations codenamed "Quyet Thang TP-136," "Quyet Thang 44-45," and "Quyet Thang 14-42, 21-38, 21-35..." in Chau Doc, Kien Phong, Kien Giang provinces and south of Long Phu from October 27 to 30, the US-puppets killed hundreds of people, set afire thousands of houses and pillaged more than 40 million dongs' worth of property.

In the operations codenamed "Dan Tri 220-6," "Le Loi 123," "Dan Tri 34," "Song Than 529-69..." launched in the last days of October in Pleiku, Quang Duc, Plei M'Rong, Rach Mit... the Americans and their stooges set afire more than 1,000 houses, killed 167 people, arrested 456 others, and tortured to incapacity 200 others.

On October 25 and 26, the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries operating northwest of Hoi An (Quang Nam province) and in many places in Binh Dinh province killed more than 100 people, arrested and tortured 267 others including 60 to invalidity, raped to death 2 girls under 14, set afire 200 houses, took away hundreds of buffaloes, oxen, hens, ducks, pigs... and other property including belongings of children and women.

All the above-mentioned crimes were part of the American scheme to intensify the war and perpetuate the occupation of South Viet Nam let out by Nixon in his November 3 war speech. They have supplied an additional proof that while paying lip service to "peace" and "good will" Nixon is stepping up the war of aggression against the South Vietnamese people.

A glorious death

H. had been a member of this unit of voluntary supply carriers dubbed «Plain of Reeds» for barely a month, but everyone liked her. She was the youngest and worked with the most brilliant results. Her mates also sympathized with her personal situation. Her family was poor and her father, a revolutionary cadre, was away; she had to look after her mother, who was in poor health, and her younger brothers and sisters. In pre-liberation days, local agents of the puppet administration had tried to recruit her into their «staff» by means of threats and blandishments, thinking a girl in hard circumstances could easily be bought over. But she outwitted them and helped revolutionary cadres get rid of them. Later she was caught in an enemy raid and thrown in jail where she was cruelly tortured. But the thugs failed to get the least information from her.

H.'s unit had been active in this enemy-held area for over a month now. One day it was attacked and surrounded by puppet troops. H. and two of her comrades fought a hard blocking action to enable the others to escape with the supplies. Unfortunately her two friends were soon seriously wounded. She managed to carry them to a safe refuge, but as dawn broke, she found herself stranded on the second storey of a house in the suburbs of the town of Moc Hoa (Kien Tuong) with enemy soldiers closing in from every side.

Looking through the window, she saw flames billowing over the surrounding quarters, a sight which reminded her of dried reeds being burnt out in the fields. Gun reports came from all sides. "Did Trang manage to take the unit to the rendez-vous point?" she worried, "and are the people to whom I have entrusted the two wounded comrades taking good care of them?" Part of the gunfire, she thought, must be the riposte being flung at the enemy by the revolutionary regional troops of Moc Hoa. Clasping her gun, she looked round at the room. "Here's my fortress," she muttered to herself. "They know I am here. I'll sell my life dearly." From down below came savage shouts: "Hey you little Viet cong, surrender if you want to live!"

"You can wait, you bloody ruffians," said H., inserting the barrel of her gun through a slit. Three burly soldiers rushed up the stairs. She pressed the trigger and felled all three. Their mates, screaming like madmen, hurled dozens of grenades, but to no avail. Three more tried to climb the stairs. Again H. pressed the trigger and killed all three with a burst. After a time, a total of twelve dead bodies piled up at the foot of the stairs. But then H. ran out of ammunition. Down in the streets, the puppet soldiers, after carrying the dead bodies to the rear, again directed an intense fire at her position. Calmly, the girl took out a grenade, the only one she had. Four things started running up the stairs, screaming. A deafening explosion: four shattered bodies rolled down the steps with a thumping sound. Again the enemy's guns crashed furiously. A shout from the commander rose amidst the din, "Catch her alive, she has fired her last bullet!"

He was right. The only thing H. had left was her empty gun.

The soldiers started flocking up the stairs with diffident steps. Many were quivering and trembling. Suddenly a man in the lead was hit in the head by an enormous flower vase, and the one on his heels was felled in his turn by a heavy stool: both projectiles hurled by H. from her vantage point. The thugs fell back in confusion. Their commander, who had remained below, roared, "Catch her alive, she has run out of ammunition!

H. took out her handkerchief and wiped her face. After tidying up her hair, she stroked her gun and said to herself, "With the butt of my gun I can get rid of a few more."

Again the heavy steps of the soldiers were heard thudding up the steps. The commander bellowed threateningly, "Surender you wench, or you'll die!"

Suddenly, before the astounded eyes of the thugs, H. turned up in the doorway, on top of the stairs. The wind from the Plain of Reeds blew into her hair and she looked up at the clear sky. A sunbeam played on her left cheek and shoulder, and made a bright patch on her glossy hair. Then she stared at them with angry eyes and tight lips. A tommy gun was clasped in her hands. She came forward slowly. The soldiers stopped half-way up the steps. Their commander, still standing on the ground behind them, shouted triumphantly, "She is surrendering herself! Hey girl, I told you it would be vain to seek to escape!"

H.'s continued to glare at them silently for a while. Suddenly she cried, "I'll never surrender!" and flung he gun violently over their heads. It hit the ground and broke in two. Before the thugs could rush up and seize her, H. jumped out of the window. The tail of her shirt flapped in the wind and as she fell her long hair trailed through the air. A burst of subchinegun hit her in the chest just before her body fell to the ground with a thud. A pool of blood widened around her...

The sound of gunfire continued unabated all around. Columns of smoke rose in the clear sky where white clouds drifted. The puppet commander put a flask of liquor to his lips and took a deep draught. His men crowded around the lifeless body of the young girl. A few veterans stepped back and respectfully took off their caps.

Awakening GIs

TO many a GI in Con Khe base near Da Nang there are certain days they cannot stand-days when the afternoon tropical sun increased the feeling of emptiness aroused by the vast stretches of scorched land around

Day after day, these American soldiers have witnessed the death destruction and suffering brought by the US atrocious war. And great is their suprise to see with that tenacity the South Vietnamese peasants stick to their land-peasants whose struggle is rocking that very base. Foreboding, anxiety and defeatism increase with the news of the repeated "Viet Cong" attacks on US positions in Sung May, An Hoa, on the headquarters of the 196th and 198th Brigades of the "America" Division in Da Nang, Qui Nhon, and other places.

The casualty list lengthens every day. To Nixon and Abrams, that is merely the question of putting corpses into plastic ponchos and taking them off in helicopters. But, to GIs in Con Khe, that's another pair of shoes.

They lament the death of their buddies, and inwardly they lament their own lots. "Whom am I fighting for? The US? The Vietnamese people?" These are questions GIs at Con Khe have begun asking themselves.

"Are you going to school?" a GI-who happened to speak Vietnamese, once asked little cowherds.

"No," the children shook their heads. "It's because of you," said one of them "You killed our parents. You killed our teachers. You destroyed our homes and our schools".

The GIs shifted their eyes with uneasiness.

"You Americans have come here to do such nasty things, have't you?" another boy asked.

Greater was the confusion among the GIs who, unable to stand any longer the penetrating gaze of the kids, walked back to their base, their minds assailed by hundreds of questions.

After that, popular literature was found in the base and was read eagerly, first by a few GIs, then by entire platoons and companies. GIs also began putting up their own slogans-"The government has deceived us!", "Bring us home!".

That was the first spark of an anti-war movement which the camp command took much pain to put out.

Anyhow, the fire flared up after the troops had talked with a young Vietnamese woman they had met just outside the perimeter.

"You don't seem to fear death, do you? one of them asked her.

"Everybody wants to live," the woman replied. "But if one has to die for one's country and people to live, there can be no more glorious death. There are men, however, who die uselessly, like Miller, David, and other in your unit. Such a death is to be feared! Your government is conducting a war of aggression against our country. That is a crime condemned by the whole mankind, including your people at home. Your death can only serve that criminal war; and for this it will be cursed by the whole world."

"Do other people here think the same?"

The woman nodded affirmatively.

"My God!" a GI exclaimed. "The President has deceived us! We've come here to commit crimes! Oh! My God!".

"Come here as often as you can to help us see things right," another GI insisted.

The woman left the base, walking leisurely. Two plainclothes agents closely followed her. Suddenly two shots rang behind her. She looked back and saw the two agents fall. The shots had been fired by awakened GIs at Con Khe who had quickly found what the two agents were up to.

The woman came back many times, and the GIs knew more and more about the land of Viet Nam and her people.

Once she received an appointment with the promise of a "special gift."

She arrived at the place on time and found the GIs there. One of them stepped forward and solemnly handed her a box on which was written: "To the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation".

The box contained souvenirs of the first mutiny in the base, during which awakened GIs had destroyed one 155mm cannon and killed two die-hard artillery officers.

The woman thanked the GIs warmly.

"I'm empowered by the NFL and the people to command your anti-war spirit. You have done the right thing which all GIs driven into this dirty war ought to do".

"So, you're a Viet Cong?", The GIs were flabbergasted.

And they all clicked their heels and raised their hands to salute Thom (Fragrance-Ed) — for that was the name of the brave woman — and chanted: "Long live the Viet Cong!" "Long live the NFL!".

Other mutinies followed. Mutineers in the 2nd Battalion, 1st Regiment, disposed of one major, one captain, one second lieutenant, and one noncom; all die-hard elements. Once, insurgent GIs killed as many as 18 cruel puppet informers.

Then one morning, with the usual blazing sun darting its rays on the vast expanse of scorched land, there was general excitement in the camp.

A swarm of helicopters were thrumming in. The "dragonflies" were now over the pad when shots were fired from the ground. The GIs that were to be lifted to a combat zone were firing with guns of all calibres. Frightened, the pilots hastily gained altitude and flew back to Da Nang.

On the ground, GIs fell in for a demonstration. Soon the camp resounded with the chants: "Bring us home!" "Stop the war!" "Viet Nam to the Vietnamese!".

THE THIEU-KY DICTATORIAL REGIME MORE SHAKY AND ROTTEN THAN EVER

POPULAR feeling has been running high over the last month throughout South Viet Nam, particularly in the occupied areas, including the urban centres.

A tax increase of 100 to 600 per cent on some 1,500 items of goods has been put into effect since last October 13. The plundering trick has been presented as a "decree" on which the Thieu-Ky junta has been trying to put the best "legal" face.

The prices of such necessities as rice, sugar, meat, vegetables and charcoal have been skyrocketing. The volume of paper-money has been rising rapidly as a result of inflation, thus causing widespread disturbances in the market. This and other fascist measures designed to rob the population of their resources are the Saigon administration's moves to serve Washington's policy of "Vietnamizing" the war in the South of our country. Parallel to economic plots, the Americans and their flunkeys are pushing up pressuging, "mop-ups", "pacification" operations, equipment of the mercenary army and "reorganization" of the puppet administration. Their aim is to protract their "dirty" war, perpetuate the partition of Viet Nam and the realization of US neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam.

Thieu-Ky's piratical policy has had serious repercussions on the life of the population of areas of the South still under US-puppet control, especially of the towns. Three days after the promulgation of the above-mentioned "decree", transport fares shot up from 50 to 100 per cent, the price of rice — the stapple food-100 per cent, and that of many other commodities from at least 40 to 100 per cent. Meanwhile social evils such as hooliganism, prostitution, robbery, speculation, black-marketing and bribery have been on the upgrade. The piastre — the currency of the Saigon regime — has dropped to an all-time low, which has most adversely affected the living standard of functionaries and the labouring people. Prior to the "decree", an MP stated: "the administration has eased the South Vietnamese people of their money up to the last cent, strangled tradesmen and driven the toilers, the military and civil servants to a death corner." After the decree had been made public, not only MPs but the strictly controlled press also complained that "Thieu Ky's policy is a bombshell exploding over the heads of the Saigonese" *(Chinh Luan*, October 27, 1969).

The fascist, plundering policy of the Saigon administration has exacerbated the inner divergences of its factions and further split its ranks. No sooner had the tax-increase been announced than the Saigon Senate met in an emergency session. Thirty of its members protested the decree that they regarded as illegal and threatened a vote of non-confidence in the Khiem cabinet. Many branded Thieu as a "dictator", others pointed to his "stupidity" and unpopularity, and all of them demanded dismissal of the ministers of finance and economy as well as curtailment of the war budget.

So much so that the so-called Democratic and Social United Front set up and led by Thieu has begun to crack. One of the six factions making it up has broken away. "The Front founded by Thieu six months ago and directed by him ever since has done nothing for the country; neither has it taken any significant action"; Its ringleader Trinh Quoc Khanh, commented.

Another faction, composed of Northern Catholic refugees under Nguyen Gia Hien who is on bad terms with Thieu, is considering whether or not to stay on in the Front.

Clearly enough, Nguyen Van Thieu has slided into unprecedented isolation while his ranks are plagued by grave internal conflicts which make his very regime shakier than ever before. A Saigon senator said last November 1: "Thieu is high and dry as he has never been, and disappointed by successive political reverses such as dissensions in his Democratic and Social United Front". In the face of this increasingly deteriorating situation, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem trio hurriedly instituted a "Special Supreme Court" with a view to repressing dissenters of all plumage, thereby also covering up the ugly facade of their regime entirely subservient to the United States. But how can they succeed in this dirty job now that the people here in South Viet Nam and in the world more and more resolutely expose them as 100 per cent traitors?

SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE CORRESPONDENT

FRIENDSHIP VISITS

At the invitation of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of the USSR, a delegation of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the South Viet Nam Republic Provisional Revolutionary Government paid a friendship visit to the Soviet Union this month. The delegation was headed by Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, and President of PRG Advisory Council.

During their stay in the country of the great Lenin, the delegation attended the anniversary celebrations of the Great October Socialist Revolution and visited several historical cities, among which Leningrad and Volgograd... Everywhere they were heartily welcomed by the Soviet people.

They were warmly received by, and had talks with, A.N. Kossygin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and L.I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party... Following these conversations, Soviet—South Vietnamese Joint Communiques were issued.

On the other hand, at the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, a visit was paid to the PRB from the 22nd to the 29th of October by a delegation of the NFL and the SVNR PRG, led by Tran Buu Kiem, member of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee and Minister of State to the Presidency of the PRG.

After visiting Sofia, Plovdiv and Varna the delegation had cordial talks with Bulgarian leaders. It was warmly received by Todor first Secretary of the CC of the Communist Party and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, and by G.Traikov, President of the Presidium of the PRB National Assembly.

Last November 1, the same visited the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria at the invitation of the DPRA Government. It was present at the 15th Commemorative ceremony of the DPRA National Day.

In Algeria and other cities the people gave a warm welcome to the messengers of the South Viet Nam.

On November 3, Houari Boumedienne, President of the Algerian Revolution and Chairman of the Council of Ministers had a cordial interview with the delegation.

The delegation also held conversations with Kaid Ahmed, a leader of the Algerian National Liberation Front Party, and Boutefleka, foreign Minister of the DPRA.

THE VOICE OF REASON

The struggle of the American people against the US aggressive war in South Viet Nam is getting ever larger, particularly with the present Moratorium. Political figures take part in it. Here below are some excerpts from the speech delivered recently in the Senate by one of its best-known members — Stephen Young, and others :

Senator Young :

In his recent speech at the United Nations, President Nixon said:

"What the US wants for South Viet Nam is not the important thing. What North Viet Nam wants for South Viet Nam is not the important thing. What is important is what the people of South Viet Nam want for South Viet Nam. To secure this right and to secure this principle is our one limited and fundamental objective...

However, at the same time, this administration continues to support and strengthen the Thieu-Ky militarist regime in Saigon the largest single obstacle to peace. Yet, President Nixon knows, or should know, that generals Thieu and Ky could not remain in power in Saigon for a week except for the support of our armed forces. President Nixon has kept in key positions Ambassador Bunker, Ambassador Lodge, and others who have been and are now subservient to Thieu and Ky.

It is obvious that there will never be peace in South Viet Nam until and unless a coalition government is established in Saigon, composed of all elements of South Vietnamese political life, including representatives of NFL, instead of a regime which has barred so-called neutralists, many Buddhists and representatives of NFL from voting or participating in government."

Democratic Sen. G. Mc Govern.

He charged Nixon with the following: "The same old tired, discredited policy we have followed to the death of 40.000 Americans."

"One would assume that the same men who wrote President Johnson's speeches wrote this one "Mc-Govern said; I was terribly discouraged by it."

Senator Charles E.Goodell: who has introduced a resolution asking for a definite Dec. 1st, 1970 time table on Viet Nam withdrawal commented: "He's tried this new approch and it hasn't worked."

On the occasion of Cambodia's National Day

MAY CAMBODIA BE PROSPEROUS AND THE VIET NAM – CAMBODIA FRIENDSHIP LAST FOR EVER!

NGUYEN VAN HIEU
Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Viet Nam to Cambodia.

ON November 9, 1969 Cambodia will commemorate her National Day, and sixteen years of independence, under the leadership of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, President of the Sangkum Reastr Niyum, a period marked by fine achievements in national construction and defence.

Cambodia has vigorously developed her education, opened many schools from primany to higher education, and in a short time trained cadres for all branches of activity. Promoting her national tradition, she has imparted to her culture a stronger national character. Head of State Norodom Sihanouk has encouraged and helped research on, and perfecting of the Khmer folk music and dance after the centuries-old stone carvings in the great Angkor temples.

In economy, the "self-reliance" motto has spelled out Cambodia's aspiration and determination to build an independent and self-supporting economy, mainly with the labour of her people and partly with the aid with no strings attached from foreign countries. Public opinion in the world highly valued Cambodia's courage and sense of dignity when she rejected in 1963 US aid with conditions. In comparison with the pre-independence days, especially since 1955, Cambodia has put into operation thousands of factories and enterprises, big and small.

In national detence, amidst the storm raised by the US imperialists' war of aggression, Cambodia, under the clearsighted leadership of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk has safeguarded peace, maintained her independence and neutrality, and successfully foiled all provocations and bellicose acts of the Americans and their Saigon and Bangkok stooges. Cambodia's determination to defend her independence and neutrality has raised her international credit and won support from the world's people.

The South Vietnamese people hail Cambodia's achievements and wish her greater and more splendid successes in every field on the occasion of her National Day.

The South Vietnamese people are very glad to note that in the year past the friendship between South Viet Nam and Cambodia has blossomed in a spirit of mutual respect and benefit. It was not fortuitous that Mr Huynh Tan Phat, President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam whose emergence ushered in a new development in South Viet Nam's resistance US aggression, made his first visit abroad to Cambodia. The Republic of South Viet Nam and the Kingdom of Cambodia are not only neighbours but also share common feelings, for both have at heart independence and neutrality and have to rebuff US imperialist aggressive plots and acts. Therefore, the South Vietnamese people were very gratified by these words of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk to President Huynh Tan Phat: "Though we are not allies because we both stand for neutrality, the Cambodia people regard the South Viet Nam people as more than friends, we consider you our brothers."

The success of this historic visit lay in that the two sides were brought closer, and once again asserted their mutual support and resolve to set up lasting and firm friendly relations.

While the US imperialists are waging their aggressive war in South Viet Nam they are continually threatening and encroaching upon Cambodia, and leaving no stone unturned to sow discord between the two peoples. But, aware of this, the latter keep on perfecting concrete relationships to safeguard and maintain this friendship. Through their government representative, the people, National Front for Liberation and Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam warmly thank the Government and people of Cambodia headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk for their reaffirmed strong support to the sacred resistance war of the South Vietnamese people.

The people, National Front for Liberation and Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam always respect the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Cambodia in her present borders. These are great principles written down in the Political Program of the National Front for Liberation and the Program of Action of the Provisional Revolutionary Government, like the principle of non-interference in each other's internal affairs and respect of each other's political regime.

To give additional substance to this spirit, on September 25, 1969 the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam and the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia concluded a commercial and payment agreement, the first official accord signed by the Provisionary Government with a foreign country. The peoples of the two countries jubilantly greeted this event as an expression of the resolve of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Kingdom of Cambodia to set up firm bases for their friendly relations at present and in the future, and at the same time as a manifestation of the solidarity and mutual support between them.

The South Vietnamese people are resolved to translate into deeds beloved President Ho Chi Minh's testament: they will certainly defeat the US imperialist agressors, completely liberate South Viet Nam and build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam and achieve the ultimate peaceful reunification of their country. They are firmly confident that a South Viet Nam, once rid of US aggressors will have facilities to strengthen the friendly ties and co-operation with her neighbours in an atmosphere of mutual trust.

May Cambodia grow more prosperous with every passing day!

May the friendship between the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples last for ever!

Phnom-Penh, November 7, 1969

PRESIDENT NGUYEN HUU THO WRITES TO AMERICAN PEOPLE

Dear friends,

This Fall Offensive launched by the American people is more stirring and broader than any previous campaign in the history of the United States, with the participation of the people of all walks of life without distinction as to the colour of the skin, and under very diversified forms. It the interest and for the honour of the United States, you are holding aloft the banner of the tradition of freedom and democracy of the United States and opposing the war of aggression in Viet Nam.

From the five continents, the world's people are warmly welcoming and supporting you. We, the Vietnamese people in the South, convey to you our very cordial and friendly greetings.

Since taking office, the Nixon administration has stubbornly refused to end its war of aggression and to bring all US-troops home. American youths continue to die a useless death in Viet Nam. More than one million US-puppet and vassal troops daily and hourly are feverishly sowing death and destruction on our beloved land.

This Fall, you have resolutely and plainly told the US ruling circles that the problem is to end the war, not to drag it out, and to withdraw all US troops, not maintain their presence in Viet Nam, and to respect the right of real self-determination of the South Vietnamese people, not to support a warlike and rotten administration rigged up by the US, and which the South Vietnamese people are demanding to overthrow.

We, the South Vietnamese people, ardently cherish peace, but there can be no peace so long as the US troops trample upon South Viet Nam. We demand that the US government withdraw its troops and the troops of other foreign countries in the US camp from South Viet Nam without setting any condition, and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs.

So long as the US government does not end its war aggression in South Viet Nam, the Vietnamese people will continue to use their legitimate right of self-defence, to fight persistently in order to wrest back their genuine independence, freedom and peace. We firmly believe that with the sympathy and strong support of the progressive people in the United States and the peace-loving people in the world, the South Vietnamese people will certainly realize their objective, namely independence, democracy, peace and neutrality, and ultimate reunification of their country.

We wish you yet greater successes in this Fall Offensive".

NGUYEN HUU THO
President of the Presidium of the CC of the SVN National Front for Liberation

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S *eloquent reply to Nixon*

ON the new page that they have written in their history by their struggle against war, the American people, traditionally attached to justice and liberty have inscribed golden letters of particular significance on October 15, 1969: *Opening Day of the Fall Offensive against War, and Viet Nam Moratorium*. That day, well over a million Americans throughout the country descended into the streets with a high mettle to demand that their government put an end to its "stupid", "immoral" and "tragic" aggression in Viet Nam and bring home all US troops immediately.

For the first time in their history, the American people, in response to the appeal of the Viet Nam Moratorium Committee and by an united action, energetically and resolutely protested the aggressive policy of their government. Their Marches in endless waves, their shouts and sounds of their feet on the streets, mixed with the peals of church bells, shook the length and breadth of the USA. The Western press observes that the Viet Nam war is heading for a new turning point in Washington, New York, Chicago, Florida, San Francisco, Los Angelos, Boston, etc." and that "the decisive battle, in the days ahead, will take place in the midst of the United States". The anti-war high tide which is surging up against the White House, involves millions of Americans of different social strata, political complexions and religious beliefs, no matter what the colour of their skins, their age and their professions. Worthiest of note in the evolution of the movement is unity of action. Many well-known congressmen lifted their voices in support of the Moratorium and took exception to Nixon's Viet Nam policy that they termed "foolish", "erroneous" and "tragic". For the first time the anti-war front has attracted three trade-unions with a four-million membership, a clear-cut indication that discontent with Nixon's policy has become general. As pointed out by Reuter (Oct.16), the Viet Nam Moratorium has shown that millions of Americans want an end to this costly war and exhibited the frustration of the United States being torn by the longest of wars in which it has been engaged.

Standing Committee of the Stockholm Conference on Viet Nam, united action is being prepared everywhere in the world to shore up the American people's struggle on next November 15. People in every continent will not forget the spectacles of armed policemen, bayonets held high, rushing toward Moratorium demonstrators last October. Speaking on November 3 to the American people, Nixon not only made light of their legitimate aspirations but cynically stigmatized anti-war demonstrations whom he accused of defaming the "free society".

Surely the American people will not tolerate the obdurately bellicose attitude of the Nixon government which is seeking to prolong the war in Viet Nam and holding on to the puppet Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration. They will not resign themselves to see Nixon and his associates go on squandering their blood and resources in a war which, enriching the capitalist magnates, smears the honour of their country.

Their eloquent reply is: There will be other and more effervescent "M" days all over the United States until the last GI is back home from South Viet Nam.

From the frontline the fourteen million Vietnamese wish to send their American friends most cordial greetings and warmest wishes for success in their just struggle.

SVNR and DRVN flags displayed in a demonstration in New York streets for an end to US war in Viet Nam

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